in the Central Public Sector, two in the State sector and one in the private sector. The total production of newsprint from indigenous mills during 1988-89 was 2.76 lakh tonnes, and for the period 1-4-1989 to 15-7-1989 75,685 tonnes. The mill in the private sector has not been producing newsprint since 1988-89. The deficit, considering the indigenous production and the total entitlement of newspapers, as per Newsprint Allocation Policy, for 1989-90 is estimated at 2.85 Lakh tonnes.

(d) Government have no such information. However, appreciating the difficulties of small & medium news papers a number of concessions have been extended to them.

Continuation of Special Foodgrains Production programme

510. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to continue the Special Foodgrains Production Programme during 1989-90 ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make any modifications in this programme ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when these modifications are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Rice, wheat, maize, gram and arhar are the focus crops covered under the programme. No modifications has been effected in the programme for maize, gram and arhar. Under SFPP for wheat, except subsiddy for buffor stocking of seed and termite control, the other components would continue during 1989-90 as well. Under the SFPP for Rice, from 1989-90 the pattern of assistance has been modified to 75 : 25 between the Government of India and the State Governments from 100% assistance from the Government of India during the last year. From 1989-90, SFPP for Rice and Special Rice Production Programme have been unified under the centrally-sponsored SFPP (Rice), including Speciaf Rice Production Programme. Distribution of pesticides, plant protection equipment farm implements, field demonstration, training infrastructure development are the main additions to the scheme from the current year. Components of subsidy for weed control and seed buffer stocking have been discontinued from 1989-90.

Achievements of poverty alleviation programme

511. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the poverty alleviation programme including the Rural Development launched in the country during the Sixth Plan period had achieved only limited success ;

(b) if so, to what extent it succeeded during the 7th Five Year Plan period ; and

(c) whether poverty alleviation programme is likely to be further strengthened during the 8th Plan and if so, what are the measures being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) and (b) Poverty alleviation has been based on two pronged strategies consistting of